

# Unintended Pregnancy

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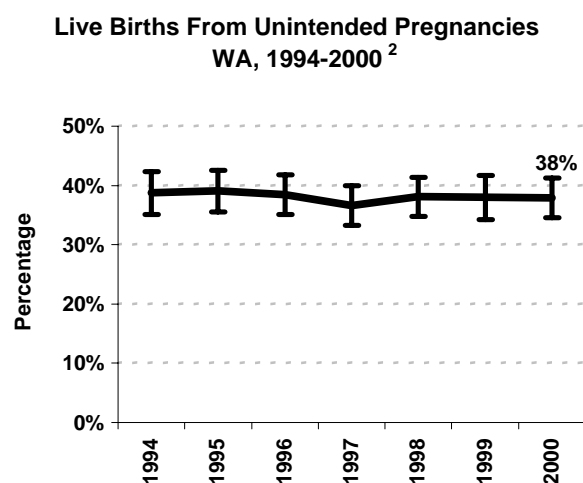
**Definition:** Unintended pregnancy refers to pregnancies that were mistimed (for example, mother wanted them to occur "later") or unwanted at the time of conception. Unintended pregnancy is measured as: (unintended live births + abortions) divided by total pregnancies (live births + abortions).

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## Key Findings

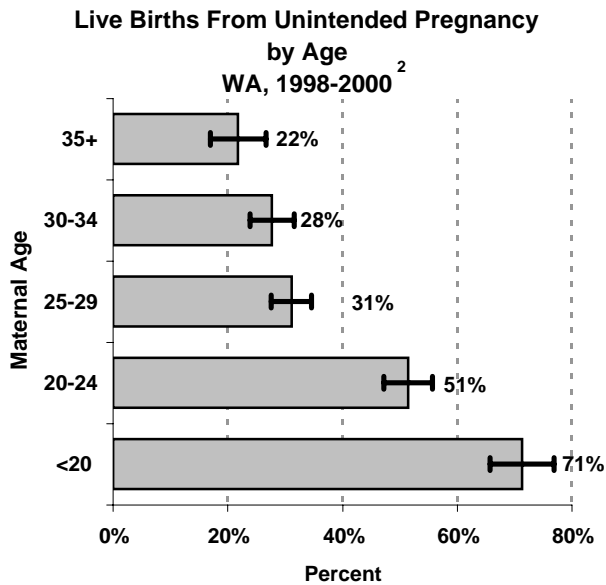
- ❖ From 1998-2000, an estimated 53% of all pregnancies in Washington State were unintended. During that time, approximately 38% of live births were births from unintended pregnancies. The rate of unintended pregnancy resulting in live births has not changed significantly since 1994.<sup>1,2</sup>
- ❖ An estimated 71% of women less than 20 years of age and 28% of women ages 30-34 reported births from unintended pregnancies.<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ Among live births, Black (about 57%) and American Indian /Alaska Native women (about 53%) were significantly more likely to report their birth was from an unintended pregnancy compared to Asian (about 38%) and White women (about 36%).<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ Grant recipients were significantly more likely to report their birth was from an unintended pregnancy (about 71%) than other women on Medicaid (51%) or women not receiving Medicaid (27%).<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ The Healthy People 2010 objective is to increase to 70% pregnancies that are intended.<sup>3</sup>

## Time Trend

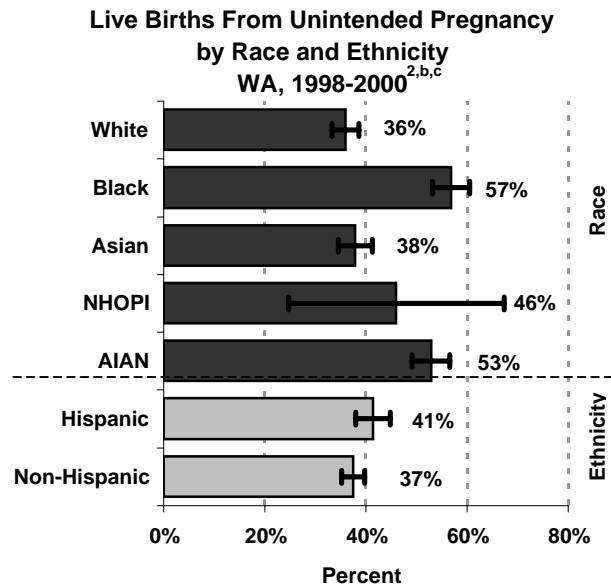


## Unintended Pregnancy (cont.)

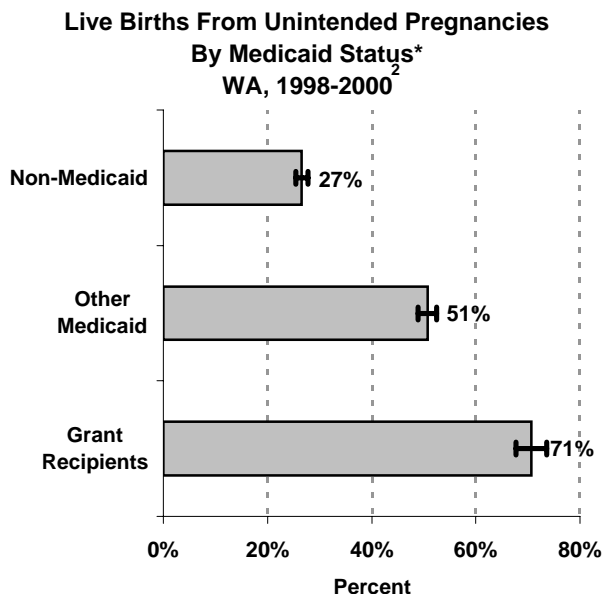
### Age



### Race and Ethnicity



### Medicaid Status<sup>\*,a</sup>



### Data Sources

- 1 Washington State Pregnancy and Induced Abortion Statistics 2000, CHS March 2002.
- 2 Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), Washington State Department of Health, 1998-2000.
- 3 Department of Health and Human Services (US). Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health. 2nd edition. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office; November 2000.

### Endnotes

- <sup>a</sup> The source for the Medicaid designations used in PRAMS is the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, First Steps Database.
- <sup>b</sup> AIAN - American Indian Alaskan Native
- <sup>c</sup> NHOPI - Native Hawaiian Other Pacific Islander

*\*Medicaid women had either prenatal care or delivery paid by Medicaid. Medicaid women include those who are very low income and receive cash assistance (TANF) in addition to Medicaid [Grant Recipients] and those who receive Medicaid with no cash assistance [Other Medicaid].*